

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the final Office Action mailed July 13, 2007 (the "Office Action"). Following entry of this Amendment, claims 23, 44-46 and 48-63 remain pending in the application. Claims 23 and 44 are independent.

In the Office Action, the Examiner:

- rejected claims 1-3, 5-9, 11, 12, 21, 25-27 and 29-33 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,408,601 to Wenk (hereinafter "Wenk") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,709,686 to Talos *et al.* (hereinafter "Talos");
- rejected claims 10, 13-20, 22, 24, 34-39, 41 and 43 under § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Wenk in view of Talos as applied to claims 1 and 8 and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,716,050 to Johnston (hereinafter "Johnston");
- rejected claim 42 under § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Wenk in view of Talos as applied to claim 1 and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,454,769 to Wagner *et al.* (hereinafter "Wagner"); and
- indicated that claims 23, 44-46 and 48-63 are allowed.

Initially, the Examiner is thanked for allowing claims 23, 44-46 and 48-63. As outlined above, Applicant has canceled rejected claims 1-3, 5-22, 24-27 and 29-43 without prejudice to their subsequent prosecution in any continuing application or disclaimer of the proprietary rights set forth therein. The amendments made herein do not represent acquiescence in the Examiner's rejections, but rather are made only to expedite prosecution of the present application. Applicant expressly reserves the right to pursue the subject matter of any previously presented claims in one or more continuation applications. As claims have only been canceled by this Amendment, Applicant respectfully requests that this Amendment be entered in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.116.

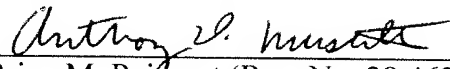
Because the only remaining pending claims in the present application are those that the Examiner has allowed, Applicant respectfully requests that a Notice of Allowance be issued. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (212) 326-3996 if a telephone call could help resolve any remaining issues.

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Response to Office Action Mailed July 13, 2007

Should any additional fees be required by reason of this Amendment and Response,
please charge such fees to Jones Day deposit account no. 50-3013.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 13, 2007



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